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Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 12790-US-PA
Application No.: 10/709,609**REMARKS****Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pattisam et al. (USPN 5,357,614, hereinafter "Pattisam") and further in view of Karpoff et al. (USPN 6,857,059, hereinafter "Karpoff").

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 10 and cancelled claim 6. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-5, 7-10 remain pending in the present application. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections addressed to claims 1-5, 7-10 for at least the reasons set forth below and reconsideration of those claims is courtcously requested.

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pattisam and further in view of Karpoff.

Amended independent claim 1 recites the features as follows:

1. A data compression/decompression device, suitable for compressing/decompressing an uncompressed/compressed data transmitted between a data generation device and a data storage device, comprising:

an input buffer, for buffering and storing said

uncompressed/compressed data for processing;

a data compressor/decompressor, coupled to said input buffer, for compressing/decompressing said uncompressed/compressed data and outputting

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a compressed/decompressed data;

an output buffer, coupled to said data compressor/decompressor for buffering and storing said compressed/decompressed data for output; and

a controller, coupled to said input buffer, said output buffer and said data compressor/decompressor, for controlling data transmission with said data generation device and said data storage device, controlling compressing/decompressing said uncompressed/compressed data, and managing an address mapping table which is the cross reference between an access address transmitted from said data generation device and a physical address of data storage in said data storage device. *(Emphasis Added)*

Amended independent claim 5 recites a data compression/decompression device similar to that of independent claim 1.

In the data compression/decompression device of Pattisam, during compressing operations in which data is transmitted from the host system 200 to the external storage device 280, the uncompressed data outputted from the host system 200 is inputted into the uncompressed data buffers 210 and 211 (please see Col.11 Line 58-60 and Fig. 3). The compressed data outputted by the data compression coprocessor 220 is inputted into the compressed data buffer 250 (please see Col. 12 Line 33-36 and Fig.3). Furthermore, during decompressing operations in which data is transmitted from the external storage device 280 to the host system 200, the compressed data outputted from the external

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storage device 280 is inputted into the compressed data buffer 250 (please see Col. 17 Line 19-22 and Fig.3), the uncompressed data outputted from the data compression coprocessor 220 is inputted into the uncompressed data buffers 210 and 211 (please see Col. 17 Line 26-31 and Fig.3). That is, the uncompressed data and the compressed data transmitted between the host system 200 and the external storage device 280 are inputted into respective buffers, i.e. the uncompressed data is inputted into the uncompressed data buffers 210 and 211, and the compressed data is inputted into the compressed data buffer 250. In other words, the uncompressed data buffers 210 and 211 (recited as an input buffer by examiner) are only used to store the uncompressed data, and the compressed data buffer 250 (recited as an output buffer by examiner) is only used to store the compressed data.

However, in the data compression/decompression device of the present invention, both of the uncompressed data and the compressed data to be processed by the data compressor/decompressor 233 are inputted into the first buffer 231, the compressed data and the decompressed data which have been processed by the data compressor/decompressor 233 are inputted into the second buffer 232. In other words, the first buffer 231 is used to store the uncompressed/compressed data to be processed, the second buffer 232 is used to store the compressed/decompressed data to be outputted.

Thus, Pattisam fails to teach or suggest "an input buffer, for buffering and storing said uncompressed/compressed data for processing" and "an output buffer, coupled to said data compressor/decompressor for buffering and storing said

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compressed/decompressed data for output" recited in amend independent claim 1.

Karpoff also fails to teach or suggest "an input buffer, for buffering and storing said uncompressed/compressed data for processing" and "an output buffer, coupled to said data compressor/decompressor for buffering and storing said compressed/decompressed data for output" recited in amend independent claim 1.

Therefore, a person of ordinary skill in the art can not combine Pattisam and Karpoff to achieve all of the features as set forth in amended independent claim 1 at the time of the invention. So amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Pattisam in view of Karpoff, and thus should be allowed.

Dependent claim 2-4 should also be patentable since it depends on allowable claim 1 directly or indirectly.

As the reasons similar to amended independent claim 1, a person of ordinary skill in the art also can not combine Pattisam and Karpoff to achieve all of the features as set forth in amended independent claim 5 at the time of the invention. So independent claim 5 is patentable over Pattisam in view of Karpoff, and thus should be allowed. Dependent claims 7-10 should also be patentable since they depend on allowable claim 5 directly or indirectly.

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For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-5, 7-10 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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